# Russian President Putin's Visit to Beijing Strengthens Alliance with China



Russian President Vladimir Putin visited Beijing on October 2023, marking his first international trip since beginning a new term in office. Welcomed with a red-carpet reception, Putin is scheduled to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping, highlighting their nations' close political and economic relations. During his two-day visit, Putin also plans to meet Chinese Premier Li Qiang and attend a gala celebrating 75 years of diplomatic relations between China and Russia.

Putin's visit follows Xi's trip to Moscow in March 2022 and underscores deepening ties amid Western sanctions against Russia due to its invasion of Ukraine. This visit aims to showcase a united front against U.S. dominance in world affairs.

The two leaders are expected to sign joint statements and bilateral agreements. Trade between China and Russia has surged, reaching a record $240 billion in 2023, with China becoming Russia's top oil supplier. Putin has praised China's support during the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, while Xi has been watching the Western response closely due to his interests regarding Taiwan.

Analysts believe the meetings will further solidify their transactional relationship. Crucial discussions may include how to circumvent Western sanctions and mutual support in their strategic and economic ventures.